

Councilmember Joe Wheeler gave the invocation. Mayor Don Gregory led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor Don Gregory. Councilmembers in attendance were: Gregory, McDaniel, Wheeler, Keolker, and Chester. Councilmember Slater was absent from the meeting.

Minutes: Upon Motion by Councilmember Chester and Seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the minutes of the 12/21/04 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS:

Doug Reid, 507 Colorado #8, representing VFW Hugh J. Ingram Post 3017, spoke about services available in Kelso for Veterans. Any honorably discharged Veteran needs to enroll in the system to help keep this local office open and take advantage of the services available to them. The VA office is located at 210 Pine and is open from 9:00 to 3:00 Monday through Friday, or you can call 577-6757 for more information. Mr. Reid encouraged the Council to write letters of support for the Service Center.

Debbie Carroll, 139 Beauvias Rd., wife of Steve Carroll, the former City of Kelso Street Department Supervisor, presented a letter from Kathleen Callahan. Mayor Gregory informed Mrs. Carroll that this was not the place to read such a letter.

Conrad Bolson, 1307 S 9th, spoke from the audience concerning the shopping carts that are left all over town. Mayor Gregory reported that City Attorney Paul Brachvogel is in process of drafting an Ordinance concerning this issue. It was noted by Community Development Director Kent Anderson that Safeway has contracted with an individual to pick up carts.

MOTION ITEMS:

Ordinance No. 05-3559 - Repealing Ordinance No. 2406 Regulating Parades and Demonstrations: The City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. Upon Motion by Councilmember Wheeler and seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Pass on 2nd Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2406 CODIFIED AS KELSO MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 12.24, IN ITS ENTIRETY,' motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance (1st Reading) - Revising the KMC – Duties of the Board of Adjustment and Review: The City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. Upon Motion by Councilmember Keolker and seconded by Councilmember Wheeler, 'Pass on 1st Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO REPEALING ORDINANCE

NOS. 04-3534, 3491, 3418, 3417, 3333, 3285, 2987 IN THEIR ENTIRETY, CODIFIED AS CHAPTER 2.68 OF THE KELSO MUNICIPAL CODE,' motion carried, all voting yes.

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS:

Paul Riley, 703 ½ Allen, spoke from the audience concerning the crosswalk at 702-703 Allen Street. Someone is going to get hurt because cars don't slow down. Could the parking be transferred to the other side of the street? Mayor Gregory indicated this is a State highway but thanked Mr. Riley for his concern. City Staff to investigate.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Doug Robinson: No Report.

Paul Brachvogel: No Report.

Kent Anderson: Handed out the Nuisance Abatement Report for 2004.

David Sypher: 1) At the 12/21/04 Council Meeting a Kelso citizen requested we turn on lights on Allen Street. For pedestrian safety, we are turning on three lights at Grade Street and four on Allen Street. 2) Councilmember Wheeler mentioned Minor Road is in need of repairs.

Geraldine Veenstra: No Report.

Veryl Anderson: No Report.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Jack Keolker: 1) Want to thank the Veterans for coming tonight. We need to get the word out that the VFW is available for help especially to the men and women coming back from Iraq.

Mark Chester: 1) Just a reminder that winter is here and the bridges are often slick. People need to slow down. 2) The crews did a good job sanding the streets when it was slick.

Todd McDaniel: Baseball sign-ups will start in about six weeks. We can always use volunteers. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 6, at 7:00 p.m. at Tam O'Shanter Park.

Joe Wheeler: No Report.

Don Gregory: 1) Thanked the crew for sanding the bridge. 2) Phillip Massey's term on the Cowlitz County Boundary Review Board will expire January 31, 2005, and he has chosen not to seek a second term. The Review Board is requesting nominations to this office to be forwarded to the Governor's Office. Nomination forms are available if you know someone who is interested.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Councilmember Wheeler will be assigned to the **Cowlitz Transit Authority Board** and **Mark Chester** will be assigned to the **City Audit Committee**, to replace Kathleen Johnson who resigned from the Council to fulfill her new position as a Cowlitz County Commissioner.

A Special Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 12th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers to interview the candidates for the open Council position.

David Sypher welcomed two new Public Works employees. **Tim Mackin is our new Parks Lead** and **David Tipton is the new Water/Sewer Supervisor.**

Upon Motion by Councilmember Keolker and seconded by Councilmember Chester, 'Move to Adjourn,' motion carried, all voting yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK